

SENATE BILL 9020

By Pody

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4;  
Title 58 and Title 68, relative to public health.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 68-2-601(a), is amended by deleting subdivision (1) and substituting instead the following:

(1) The county mayor or the mayor's designee;

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 68-2-603, is amended by adding the following new subsection:

( )

(1) During a declared state or local state of emergency, if a county health director or an officer or employee of a county health department enters the premises of a business for purposes of enforcing a state or local public health order or directive, a law enforcement officer shall not accompany the director, officer, or employee unless the director, officer, or employee articulates to the appropriate law enforcement agency a reasonable belief that:

(A) The director, officer, or employee will be under an imminent threat of serious bodily harm, injury, or death while enforcing the order or directive; or

(B) The presence of a law enforcement officer is necessary to make an arrest for a criminal violation.

(2) A business owner may file a complaint with a court of competent jurisdiction alleging a violation of this subsection ( ), and the court shall, upon

finding a violation, vacate the order or citation and may grant equitable relief as the court deems appropriate.

SECTION 3. This act takes effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.